

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Uwe HEITMANN et al

**Divisional** of Appl. No.: 09/976,291

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 5, 2003

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Atty. Docket No.: 31653-191756

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS  
FOR MAKING A TOBACCO ROD

Customer No.:  
**26694**

**Preliminary Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants request the entry of the following amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified application:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.